

*Dictated to me from his  
bedroom - press to coming  
over to make his report  
Earl Warren*

Finally, I would like to say a personal word. When I ran for President of the United States I knew that we faced serious challenges in the 60's, but I could not realize, nor could any man who does not know bear this responsibility/how heavy and constant would be its burdens.

The United States relied for its security in the late 40's on the fact that it alone had the atomic bomb and the means of delivery. Even in the early 50's when the Soviet Union began to develop its own thermo-nuclear capacity we still had a clear lead in the means of delivery, but in the very recent years the Soviet Union has developed its own nuclear stockpile and has also developed the capacity in planes and missiles to deliver bombs against our country itself. This means that if the United States and the Soviet Union became engaged in a struggle in which these missiles are used then it could mean the destruction of both of our people and our country.

What makes this so somber is the fact that the Soviet Union is attempting in a most forceful way to assert its power and this brings them into collision with us in those areas, such as Berlin where we have long standing commitments. Three times in my lifetime our country and Europe have been involved in wars and <sup>on</sup> ~~when~~ both sides in each case serious misjudgments were made which brought about great devastation.

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Now, however, any misjudgments on either side about the intentions of the other more devastation could be rained in several hours than we have seen in all the wars in our history. As President and Commander in Chief, therefore, and as Americans you and I together move through serious days. I shall bear the responsibility of the Presidency under our Constitution for the next 3-1/2 years. I am sure you know that I shall do the very best I can for our country and our cause.

Like you I have a family, which I wish to see grow up in a country at peace and in a world where freedom endures.

I know that sometimes you get impatient and wish we could make some immediate action that would end our perils, but there is no easy and quick solution. We are opposed by a system which <sup>has</sup> ~~is~~ organized a billion people and which knows that if the United States falters their victory is eminent. Therefore, we must look to long days ahead, which if we are courageous and persevering can bring us what we all desire. I ask therefore in these days for your suggestions and advice. I ask your criticisms when ;you think we are wrong, but above all my fellow citizens I want you to realize that I love this country and shall do my best to protect it. I need your good will and support and above all your prayers.

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all your prayers

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